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tween the two is that Shaw more vigorously believes in belief itself.

Mr. Henderson's volume is full of amusing and interesting matter, but it is so full that it would gain by condensation. Five hundred and twelve pages, not to mention Introduction and Prefaces, make an unsuitably big book to deal with one particularly famous for terse epigram. The fact that the author is an American and a Southerner is noteworthy. Shaw demands particular attention in our country where the more cultured readers are apt to value tradition so highly that they even prefer to manufacture than do without it, while the less cultured readers are inclined to distrust intellect as something too academic or ideal to deal with the day's practical questions. For the first class Shaw's antinomianism is a healthy corrective which says: "See how absurd a thing Good Form may prove after you've got it. To the seeing eye Good Form is often such very bad form." And to the second class Shaw proves that the advanced thinker is not necessarily an ineffectual, a pessimist, or an anarchist. For—however fiercely Mr. Shaw himself might repudiate my approbation—I believe him to be a force that makes for order and for hope.

L. WARDLAW MILES.

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STATESMEN OF THE OLD SOUTH; OR FROM RADICALISM TO CONSERVATIVE REVOLT. By William E. Dodd. New York: The Macmillan Company. \$1.50.

Professor Dodd's little volume consists of studies of the lives of Thomas Jefferson, John C. Calhoun, and Jefferson Davis. Thus as to the title and as to the biographical treatment one is at once reminded of Professor Trent's *Southern Statesmen of the Old Régime*, published some fifteen years ago. A comparison of the books is interesting both in the similarities which appear and in the marked contrasts which are found. Both are based on more or less popular lectures, and both treat of these three men,—Jefferson, Calhoun, and Davis,—though Professor Trent also gave sketches of Washington, John Randolph of Roanoke, Alexander H. Stephens, and Robert Toombs. Both represent a critical attitude toward their subjects, far removed from the

blind praise of too many biographical studies of this sort. Each writer has made history interesting, and writes with a delightful style.

But a further examination reveals very real contrasts. Professor Trent's work was frankly based, for the most part, upon secondary materials, while that of Professor Dodd, though only an occasional footnote appears, breathes through every line an intimate acquaintance with the source-material. Again, in the point of view the two works differ greatly. The "expulsive power of a new affection" was strong in Professor Trent, and, Virginian though he was, his book assumed at the outset the standpoint of Webster's construction of the Constitution of the United States and of Abraham Lincoln's ideas as to negro slavery. Hence his tone in speaking of the Southern leaders was always one of forgiving regret. In Professor Dodd we have another man of Southern birth, another sharp critic of the policies of the men about whom he writes, but one that takes a more healthy, aggressive view of the greatness of Calhoun and Davis, and who notes with more sympathetic appreciation their qualities of constructive statesmanship.

While couched in biographical terms, Dr. Dodd's book is really a philosophy of the history of the South before the War. He presents the thesis that the Democratic party began its career in the formative Jeffersonian period as a rational, frontier, idealist party; under Calhoun it took up the defence of the special form of property which the South possessed in its slaves, when, from an *a priori* standpoint, the defence of this property might have continued in the care of the National Republicans,—the later Whigs, who were the party of wealth and vested interests. Finally, under Jefferson Davis, the Democratic party in the South stood for the belief that Slavery was "a divinely established order of things for which all true Southerners must take up arms," or, in other words, had become definitely the party of vested interests, similar, as far as the differing conditions permit comparison, to the "magnates who exploit the country and rule the Senate in 1911."

How far this explanation of the Civil War is a correct induction from the documentary sources is a matter about which,

we imagine, there will be some difference of opinion. In the very interesting *Diary of Gideon Welles*, Lincoln's Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Welles accounts for the typical psychical characteristics of the South Carolinians of 1860 by recalling that that generation of South Carolina's children had been brought up on the novels of Sir Walter Scott. Doubtless there is some truth in this diagnosis; but it will hardly be accepted,—and was not intended,—as a full philosophy of Secession. So, in a far deeper and more serious way, Professor Dodd has advanced a thesis which is full of interest and which is most ably supported: but it will be better discussed as a thesis than accepted as a final analysis.

A conspicuous merit of Professor Dodd's little volume is found in the firm touch with which the author summarizes the importance to the larger issues of the period of the parts played by the lesser men who surrounded the protagonists. As illustrations may be cited the influence exerted, at critical times, by Robert J. Walker, of Mississippi, and by Thomas Ritchie, of the *Richmond Enquirer*. What a need there is for scientific biographies of just such men!

It is to be regretted that, with such excellent historical content and with such an attractive exterior, there should have crept into the little book a number of minor errors, some of them errors of proof-reading, which give to the captious opportunity for fault-finding. At the very end of the book, the phrase, "A negro has no rights which a white man need respect," is so used by Professor Dodd as to make possible the impression, surely unfortunate, that he conceives this to have been a legal doctrine declared by the *Dred Scott* Decision. ST. G. L. S.

KENTUCKY IN THE NATION'S HISTORY. By Robert McNutt McElroy.
New York: Moffatt, Yard & Company. \$5.00.

In this stout volume by Professor McElroy, of Princeton University, we have a work of great interest and value. Professor McElroy has enjoyed the privilege of an extended use of the valuable library of Colonel Durrett in Louisville. As would be expected, the early history bulks large: one third of the